



U.S. Department  
of Transportation  
**Federal Highway  
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Ave., SE  
Washington, D.C. 20590

**May 27, 2021**

**FOIA Control Number:**  
**FHWA 2021-0111**  
In Reply Refer To:  
HDA-VA

National FOIA Office  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW (2310A)  
Washington, DC 20460

Dear FOIA Officer:

Requester: Morgan Butler Request Number: FHWA 2021-0111

While processing a Freedom of Information Act request from the above-named requester, our office located material that originated with your office. The paragraph(s) checked below apply.

[ X ] The information contained in the enclosed numbered documents and bracketed in colored pencil originated with your office. Please make a determination as to the disclosure or withholding of the information and send your recommendation to this office. Any information which you feel should be deleted should be bracketed in a different color pencil or pen. Please provide us with your reasons for withholding or disclosing the information. This office will respond directly to the requester.

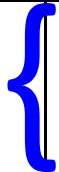
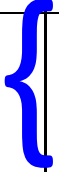
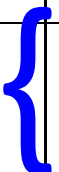
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If you have any questions about this matter please contact Reinette Fed at (804) 775-3334 or [reinette.fed@dot.gov](mailto:reinette.fed@dot.gov).

Sincerely,

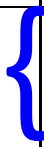
Reinette Fed  
FOIA Representative  
FHWA Virginia Division

Enclosure

<b>PROJECT REVIEW COMMENT AND RESOLUTION SHEET</b>				<b>CODES:</b> <b>A. ACCEPT COMMENT—WILL BE CORRECTED, ADDED, OR CLARIFIED.</b> <b>B. DESIGNER WILL EVALUATE.</b> <b>C. DELETE COMMENT</b> <b>D. CITY TO EVALUATE.</b> <b>E. INFORMATIONAL/NEXT PHASE REQUIREMENT</b>	
<b>DESCRIPTION:</b> NIMMO PARKWAY PHASE VII-B		<b>REVIEW PHASE &amp; TYPE:</b> PURPOSE AND NEED		<b>DATE:</b>	
ITEM No.	DWG. No. <sup>(1)</sup>	COMMENTS	CODE <sup>(2)</sup>	RESPONSE <sup>(2)</sup>	FINAL DISPOSITION <sup>(3)</sup>
		<b><u>United States Army Corp of Engineer – Melissa Nash</u></b>			
1		 Section 1.4 'Project Needs' discusses Sandbridge Road and the need to provide more reliable access. We believe that Sandbridge Road should be shown within the Study Area. The proposed Nimmo Parkway VIIB can be shown as your "Preferred Project Corridor."	A	The study area will be edited to show Sandbridge Road as part of the study area. Text will also be added describing Sandbridge Road and the previous studies that were completed.	
2		 Please discuss or show on a map the projects that are in the works to upgrade Sandbridge Road, including Sandbridge Road/Nimmo Phase VIIA and the bridge replacement over Hell's Point Creek.	A	The Sandbridge Road – Nimmo Phase VIIA, the Sandbridge Bridge Replacement over Hell's Point Creek, and the Sandbridge Road – Newbridge Road intersection improvements will be added to the Project Background section as permitted projects within the area.	
3		 How does the multi-purpose trail fit into the project purpose? Can the trail be separated and be proposed within a different alignment or is the trail an integral part of the road?	D	The shared use path provides reliable multi-modal access for pedestrians and bicyclist that desire safe access to Sandbridge Beach. The shared use path also meets City code requiring pedestrian facilities be constructed along arterial streets.	

- (1) Indicate drawing no./page no. or use "G" for general comment.  
 (2) To be filled out by Project Manager in conjunction w/ Designer.  
 (3) To be determined in comment resolution meeting/discussion(CEP Milestone Meeting) (list date resolved).

**Note:** This form is to be used by the Project Development Team to provide comments or concerns associated with the design at the CEP Milestones. Comments shall be provided to the PM prior to the Milestone Meeting and the actual meeting time will be used to resolve any outstanding issues or conflicting comments.

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4		We agree with the comments from EPA. Please see email below.	E		
		<u>EPA – Barbara Okorn</u>			
5		 Background information is provided describing the history of the project area, but the document does not mention the already permitted activities proposed for Sandbridge Road. We suggest these be included in the discussion.	A	The Sandbridge Road – Nimmo Phase VIIA, the Sandbridge Bridge Replacement over Hell's Point Creek, and the Sandbridge Road – Newbridge Road intersection improvements will be added to the Project Background section as permitted projects within the area.	

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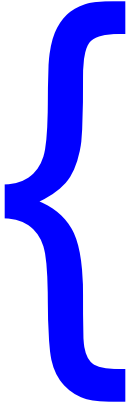
DWG. No.<sup>(1)</sup>

## PROJECT REVIEW COMMENT AND RESOLUTION SHEET

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ITEM No.		COMMENTS	CODE <sup>(2)</sup>	RESPONSE <sup>(2)</sup>	FINAL DISPOSITION <sup>(3)</sup>
6		We suggest the project purpose and need be further clarified. The stated need is to "provide reliable access and connectivity to the Sandbridge community". There are other issues identified throughout the document—emergency response, limitations of using military property, flooding, safety, accidents, congestion, a narrow 2 lane existing roadway, etc. The purpose and need statement is important because it helps explain why a proposed action is being undertaken, the objectives the project intends to achieve, and the measures to determine how well alternatives meet needs. The purpose of the proposed action is typically the specific objectives of the activity. The need should explain the underlying problem.	D	FHWA provided guidance that the issues identified throughout the document ultimately fall under one purpose, to provide reliable access and connectivity.	

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7		Based on the information provided and the project corridor depicted, it seems that the range of alternatives evaluated is being limited in this assessment. For example, since part of Sandbridge Road is being upgraded and elevated and a bridge is being elevated, possible alternatives to consider may be addressing the remaining portion of Sandbridge Road (which is outside of the depicted project corridor). Evaluating planned activities that may address improvement goals (safety, flooding, etc) and evaluating alternative approaches to meeting the area's need, will strengthen the planning and decision-making process. It is recommended that a larger study area be considered to be able to assess factors in the area.	D	The alternative analysis document will address alternatives to meet the area's need.	
8		It is important to identify resources from the natural and human environment in the area. Approaches to avoid and minimize impacts to high quality resources should be considered. Preserving functions of the resource, for instance wetland function in flood mitigation, can be incorporated into the project purpose.	D	Resources will be evaluated in the technical studies of the NEPA document. Technical studies will include Cultural Resources, Natural Resources, Noise, Traffic, Visual Impacts, 4(f) resources, and air quality.	

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9		Is pedestrian/ bike traffic a need for this proposed project? It is our understanding that it is part of the Sandbridge project. If so, it should be discussed.	D	The shared use path provides reliable multi-modal access for pedestrians and bicyclist that desire safe access to Sandbridge Beach. The shared use path also meets City code requiring pedestrian facilities be constructed along arterial streets.	

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